(c) and (d) The Government does not receive complaints directly as these are to be dealt by Complaints Committees constituted by the employers in the respective work places.

Navodaya Vidyalayas in Manipur

2432. SHRI RISHANG KEISHING: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of existing Navodaya Vidyalayas in Manipur;

(b) whether the schools are provided with the required staff, buildings, accommodation for students; and

(c) the Plans in hand for development and providing facilities for these schools?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) There are nine Navodaya Vidyalayas in Manipur.

(b) and (c) Out of the 9 Navodaya Vidyalays sanctioned in Manipur, 7 Vidyalayas are functioning in Permanent buildings. The remaining 2 JNVs are functioning in temporary accommodation provided by the State Government. There are some vacancies in the teaching and non-teaching posts. However, against the vacancies in the teaching posts, Principlas have been authorized to appoint teachers on contract basis. Construction works are being monitored constantly and adequate financial resources are being made available on priority for completion of the buildings in Manipur. Efforts are being made to expedite developmental works like water & electricity etc. for early completion.

Problems of higher education

2433. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the problems of higher education in the country; and

(b) the action taken to solve these problems, in educational terms?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]:

(a) According to the information furnished by the University Grants Commission, the system of Higher Education in the country has generally been facing the problems of access, equity, relevance, quality and resource crunch;

(b) The X Five Year Plan proposals for the Ministry of Human Resource Development for higher edcucation development, *inter alia*, aim to achieve a profound transformation of higher education in order that it becomes an effective promoter of sustainable human development and at the same time, improves its relevance with closer links with the world of work and achieve quality in its teaching, research and business and community extension functions including life long learning.

Technical Institutions in Bihar

2434. SHRI LALU PRASAD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether major technical institutions of Bihar have gone to Jharkhand, after reorganisation of the State;

(b) whether this loss of technical institutions has caused immense damage to students of Bihar, who intend to pursue technical courses; and

(c) whether, in view of a large population and the need of the State to have technically qualified manpower, Government propose to establish an IIT in Bihar; if so, by what means and by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Admission into major Technical institutes are made on the basis of merit positions obtained in the common entrance examinations conducted on all India basis. The interest of students of Bihar to that extent are not adversely affected as the students of Bihar are free to compete in these examinations and gain admissions into the major technical Institutes anywhere in the country including Jharkhand.

(c) As opening of new Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) requires huge investments, the Government of India is not considering opening of any new IIT in the country at present. Alternatively, cost effective options